

**Military Personnel**

**AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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This instruction establishes policies, procedures, and standards for the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) Professional Development Program, Commando EDGE. It implements AFD 36-22, Military Training, and complements AFI 36-2201, Developing, Conducting, and Managing Training. This instruction applies to personnel assigned to the 58 SOW. AFSOC-gained Air Reserve Forces are encouraged to participate in AFSOC Professional Development. This instruction applies to Air National Guard (ANG) personnel when published in the ANGIND 2.

This instruction requires collection and maintenance of information protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. The authority to collect and maintain the records prescribed in this instruction is 10 U.S.C. 8013 and EO 9397, Secretary of the Air Force, powers and duties; by delegation. Each form required by this instruction, that requires a Privacy Act Statement, has that statement incorporated in the body of the form. Privacy Act systems of records notice F035 AFMPC applies.

**\* SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

This revision expands the enlisted specialty codes covered by this instruction to include the 2G0X1 AFSC (paragraphs 2.2.2. and 5.1.); expands the Commando Edge program to include prior AFSOC assigned personnel (paragraph 2.2.4.); encourages AFSOC civilian personnel to participate in the academic portion of the program (paragraph 2.2.5); provides more definitive guidance on routing the AFSOC Form 92 for individual certification (paragraphs 2.4., 4.2., and 5.2.); assigns responsibility for implementing command professional development to Wing/Group Commanders, Headquarters Directors, and Primary Support Unit Commanders (paragraph 3.4.1.); and changes several curriculum requirements for all operations and support personnel (attachments 1, 2, 3, and 4).

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## Chapter 1

### AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (COMMANDO EDGE)

**1.1. General.** Commando EDGE is based on the United States Special Operations Command's (USSOCOM) responsibility to provide the National Command Authority forces capable of executing high-risk, high-gain missions with the highest expectation of success on the first attempt. This is specified in USSOCOM Directive 350-25, Training. This program covers officers and eligible enlisted personnel assigned to AFSOC, the Air Force component of USSOCOM. Commando EDGE complements Air Force professional development programs by concentrating on special operations and certain Air Force competencies required of personnel assigned to AFSOC.

**1.2. Explanation of Program Name.** The name Commando EDGE was selected to avoid confusion between this special operations professional development program and the Air Force Officer Professional Development (OPD) program outlined in AFPAM 36-2630. The name Commando denotes an AFSOC program, and the acronym **EDGE** is based on the concept that **E**ducation plus personal **D**evelopment and **G**rowth will result in **E**nhanced AFSOC professionals.

**1.3. Purpose of Commando EDGE.** This program is intended to produce professional special operations commissioned and noncommissioned officers. It establishes a system that provides them the experiences, training, and education that they need to grow as special operators while keeping them fully competitive in the Air Force for promotion and command. Air Force special operations professionals will possess sufficient knowledge of their own and other services' special operations forces to be effective members of joint staffs, special operations commands, and joint special operations task forces. They will understand joint and service doctrine and be able to articulate the roles special operations plays in support of conventional missions and unilateral operations.

**1.4. Philosophy of Commando EDGE.** Air Force special operations personnel are challenged to be the best in their service and the best in joint operations. This is a high calling that can easily place them in positions of responsibility and authority with the fate of other Americans and the prestige of the nation in their hands. These demands call for the highest degree of military professionalism. This program is designed to produce special operations airmen who are truly "Quiet Professionals."

**1.5. Commando EDGE Curriculum.** Commando EDGE consists of courses offered in formal military schools plus field experiences with other Air Force units and joint special operations forces. The program is intended to build individual professional skills through classroom instruction reinforced by practical experience at increasingly demanding levels of responsibility. The individual at Level I will be able to achieve certification with minimum introductory courses and experiences, whereas Level II and III certification will require significantly more study and experience. Basic requirements are set for all officers and eligible noncommissioned officers. The overall effort required for each level is balanced by adjusting elective requirements. Attachments 1 through 4, specify curricula for officer and noncommissioned officers. Specifically, operations and support personnel have unique program requirements designed by command functional managers to achieve special operations professional development.

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## Chapter 2

### COMMANDO EDGE MODELS

**2.1. Commando EDGE Models.** Commando EDGE is configured to roughly coincide with normal military career progression and Air Force Professional Military Education (PME). Figure 2.1 depicts the AFSOC officer model and Figure 2.2 depicts the AFSOC noncommissioned officer model. Certification at the entry level (EDGE I) signifies an individual is qualified as mission ready in their AFSC and has completed the required training, education, and experience in Air Force and joint special operations. It also signifies that Air Force PME appropriate for the individual's grade has been completed. Similarly, Level II and III signify that the individual has moved up in responsibilities and in professional education, training, and joint experience with appropriate service PME completed at each promotion. This model provides a practical method to track individual development and guide career progression through formal schooling and work experience.

#### **2.2. Selection to Enter the Commando EDGE Certification Program:**

2.2.1. All officers assigned to AFSOC and the 58 SOW are covered by this program. Minimum basic requirements for each level are established.

2.2.2. Enlisted Personnel. AFSOC enlisted personnel serving in 1A/1TXXX, 1N0XX, 1CXXX, 2EXXX, 2GOX1, 2W1XX, 3CXXX, and 8S1XX specialty codes (aircrew, special tactics, intelligence, command/control, communications/electronics, munitions/weapons, logistics, and communications/computers) are covered by this instruction, as are First Sergeants (8F000). Minimum basic requirements are established for each level.

2.2.3. Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Personnel. All Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel with a special operations mission are encouraged to participate following the same guidelines as active duty officers and enlisted personnel.

2.2.4. Special Operators Not Currently Assigned to AFSOC. All Air Force officers and eligible enlisted personnel with extensive special operations experience, not currently assigned to AFSOC, may participate in the program. They will maintain their own AFSOC Form 92. Once they have completed requirements to be certified at level I, II, or III, they will sign and forward the form along with supporting documentation (i.e. course graduation certificates, exercise TDY orders, etc.) to HQ AFSOC/DP for certification and entry into the data base.

2.2.5. AFSOC Civilian Personnel. As an integral part of the AFSOC community, civilians working in AFSOC are encouraged to participate in the academic portions of the Commando EDGE program. They will not be certified or maintained in the database.

**2.3. Commando EDGE Records.** Maintain training records to ensure completion of all requirements before certification is granted. The AFSOC Form 92, Commando EDGE Training/Certification Record (Figure 2.3), provides for all basic requirements with room to include requirements established by directors and primary support unit commanders.

**2.4. Commando EDGE Certification.** Unit Training officers or unit training managers schedule and monitor completion of Commando EDGE requirements. The group commander, headquarters director, or primary support unit commander certifies an individual at Level I, II, or III on the AFSOC Form 92 when the requirements for that level of certification are met. The unit then forwards a copy of the AFSOC form to HQ AFSOC/DPPP to be entered into the command data base. Original certification records will be returned to the member for source documentation.

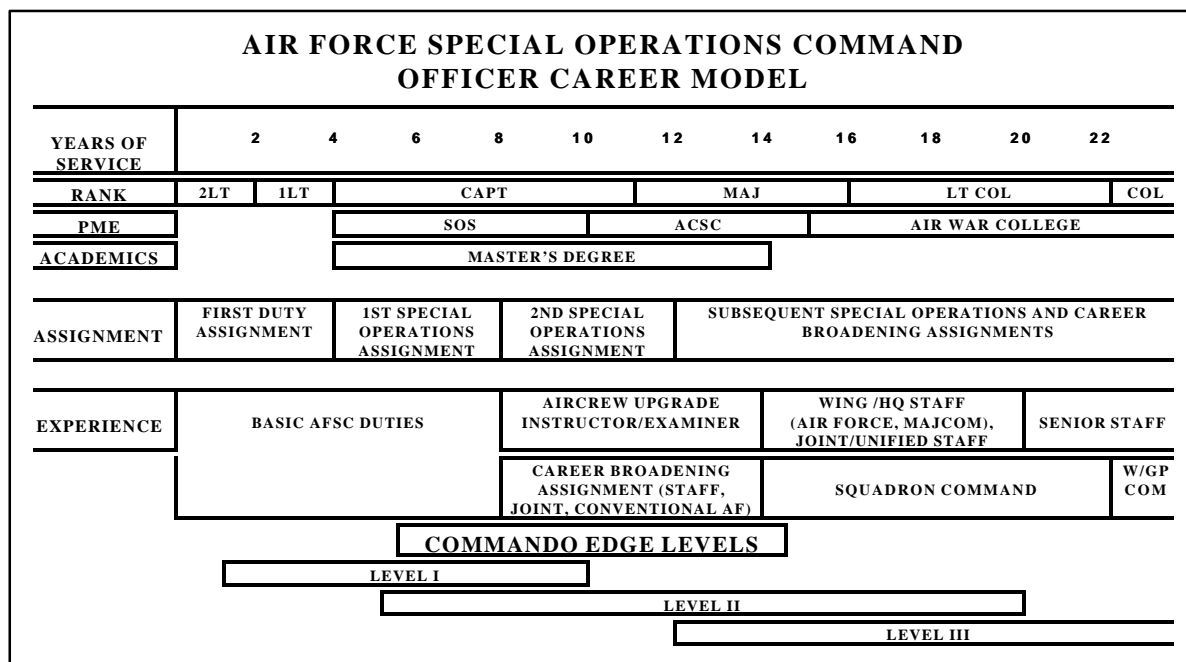


Figure 2.1 Commando EDGE AFSOC Officer Model

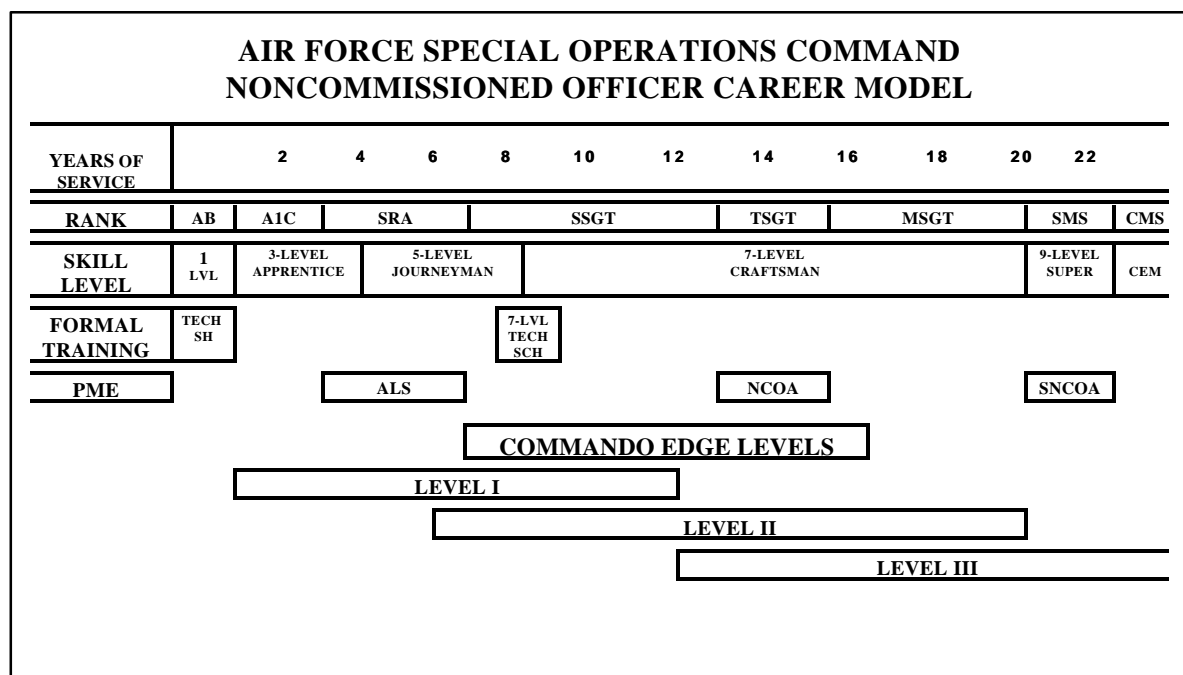


Figure 2.2 Commando EDGE AFSOC Noncommissioned Officer Model

COMMANDO EDGE TRAINING RECORD							
<b>PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT</b> <b>AUTHORITY:</b> 10 U. S. C. 8013 and EO 9397 <b>Principal Purpose (s):</b> To assure completion of all requirements prescribed by AFSOCI 36-2201 for certification of completion of this phase of Air Force Special Operations Professional Development. SSAN is for positive identification. <b>Routine Uses:</b> Information may be released outside the DOD for any of the blanket routine uses published by the Air Force. <b>DISCLOSURE IS VOLUNTARY:</b> Failure to provide information may result in non-certification of training completion.							
<b>I. MEMBER IDENTIFICATION DATA</b>							
<b>NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)</b> Doe, John E.		<b>SSN</b> 123-45-6789		<b>GRADE</b> E-5		<b>DAFSC</b> 1AXXX	
<b>ORGANIZATION</b> 353 SOG		<b>LOCATION</b> Kadena AB, JA		<b>COMMANDO EDGE LEVEL</b>			
				X		I II III	
<b>II. TRAINING RECORD (SEE AFSOCI 36-2201 FOR SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS)</b>							
<b>CORE PREREQUISITES</b>							
<b>PREREQUISITE COURSE/EVENT</b>		<b>DATE</b>		<b>PREREQUISITE COURSE/EVENT</b>		<b>DATE</b>	
Qualified Mission Ready		Jun 90					
Completed ALS		Feb 92					
ISOC/Air Commando Orientation		Mar 93					
<b>CORE REQUIREMENTS</b>							
<b>REQUIRED COURSE/EVENT</b>		<b>DATE</b>		<b>REQUIRED COURSE/EVENT</b>		<b>DATE</b>	
Participation in JCS Exercise		Dec 91					
Aircrew Planner in SOPE		May 93					
<b>CORE ELECTIVES</b>							
<b>ELECTIVE COURSE/EVENT</b>		<b>DATE</b>		<b>ELECTIVE COURSE/EVENT</b>		<b>DATE</b>	
Asia-Pacific Orient. Course		Aug 91					
Dynamics of Intl. Terrorism		May 94					
<b>III. CERTIFICATION:</b> THIS MEMBER HAS COMPLETED ALL REQUIREMENTS IN AFSOCI 36-2201 FOR COMPLETION OF THE COMMANDO EDGE PHASE I FOR THE ABOVE GRADE AND DAFSC.							
<b>1. UNIT TRAINING OFFICER</b> 1 SOS/OOGO		<b>PRINTED NAME</b> I. M. TRAINER		<b>SIGNATURE</b>		<b>DATE</b>	
<b>2. FUNCTIONAL MANAGER (IF REQUIRED) N/A</b>		<b>PRINTED NAME</b>		<b>SIGNATURE</b>		<b>DATE</b>	
<b>3. COMMANDER/DCS</b> 353 SOG/CC		<b>PRINTED NAME</b> I. M. COMMANDER		<b>SIGNATURE</b>		<b>DATE</b>	
<b>4. AFSOC/DPA</b> DPPP		<b>PRINTED NAME</b> I. M. DATA BASE		<b>SIGNATURE</b>		<b>DATE</b>	

AFSOC FORM 92, MAR 94 (EF)

Figure 2.3. AFSOC Form 92, Commando EDGE Training/Certification Record

### Chapter 3

#### COMMANDO EDGE RESPONSIBILITIES

**3.1. Director of Operations.** AFSOC Director of Operations (DO) will:

3.1.1. Ensure the policies and procedures of Commando EDGE are effective in developing professional officers and noncommissioned officers.

3.1.2. Ensure education, training, and experience requirements are established for operations personnel.

3.1.3. Ensure adequate resources are available to meet established training and education requirements.

**3.2. Director of Personnel.** AFSOC Director of Personnel (DP) will:

3.2.1. Maintain a data base record of certifications.

3.2.2. Ensure Commando EDGE is consistent with Air Force assignment and professional development policies.

3.2.3. Ensure education, training, and experience requirements are established for support personnel.

3.2.4. Certify personnel not currently assigned to AFSOC by reviewing the AFSOC Form 92 and supporting documentation.

**3.3. Commandant, USAF Special Operations School (USAFSOS).** The USAFSOS Commandant will:

3.3.1. Develop and conduct educational courses as required to satisfy Commando EDGE requirements.

3.3.2. Serve as AFSOC office of primary responsibility (OPR), responsible for writing and updating AFSOCI 36-2201, Air Force Special Operations Professional Development.

**3.4. Wing/Group Commanders, Headquarters Directors, Primary Support Unit Commanders.** Commanders and headquarters directors will:

3.4.1. Implement the Commando EDGE program.



- 3.4.2. Schedule assigned personnel for required Commando EDGE training, education, and joint field experience.
  - 3.4.3. Prepare budget requests to fund Commando EDGE requirements.
  - 3.4.4. Maintain training records and requests for certification.
  - 3.4.5. Review Commando EDGE records and certify completion of requirements.
  - 3.4.6. Actively support Commando EDGE through personal involvement to ensure all eligible individuals are given the opportunity to participate in the program.
  - 3.4.7. Compile accurate forecasts of training needs, convey training requirements to the respective training OPRs, and monitor allotted training and education quotas.
  - 3.4.8. Ensure consistency of Commando EDGE certification submittals.
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## Chapter 4

### OFFICER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**4.1. Description of Commando EDGE for Officers.** The Commando EDGE program applies to all officers assigned to AFSOC and the 58 SOW. The primary intent of this program is to increase AFSOF readiness and capability through better education and interoperability. This includes having all AFSOC officers capable of performing liaison duties for Air Force/joint special operations headquarters. AFSOC officers should be able to clearly and correctly convey requirements, capabilities, and limitations of service and joint special operations organizations. Additionally, certain specialty career field personnel are expected to provide expertise from their area of responsibility. The expected outcomes of Commando EDGE are successful operations and mutual understanding amongst Air Force and joint special operations organizations. The Commando EDGE program for officers consists of required and elective formal courses enhanced by required field experience (see attachments 1 and 2). The ranks and years of service shown in various attachments corresponding to Commando EDGE levels are approximate; some officers may complete all requirements quickly; others entering special operations at a more senior rank must start at Level I. However, minimum experience and time in special operations beyond Commando Edge is required up through lieutenant colonel for leadership positions.

**4.2. Certifications.** The training/certification document (AFSOC Form 92) carries a commander's or a director's indorsement that an officer is capable of performing at a professional

level. Training officers or unit training managers complete the AFSOC form when an officer successfully completes all requirements for certification at Level I, II, or III. The commander or director signs the form and forwards a copy to HQ AFSOC/DPPP for inclusion in the data base. The form is then returned to the training officer/manager to be maintained in the individual's record.

**4.3. Waiver Authority.** Special circumstances may call for a waiver to certification requirements set in this instruction. Waiver authority is the AFSOC Vice Commander. Petitions for waiver should be made in writing to the AFSOC Vice Commander and should cite specific requirements to be waived with justification for the waiver. Maintain the waiver petition and AFSOC Vice Commander response with the individual's Commando EDGE training record (AFSOC Form 92).

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## Chapter 5

### NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**5.1. Description of Commando EDGE for Noncommissioned Officers.** The Commando EDGE program applies to enlisted personnel serving in aircrew operations, intelligence, command/control, communications/electronics, munitions/weapons, computers, logistics (AFSCs 1A/1TXXX, 1NOXX, 1CXXX, 2EXXX, 2GOX1, 2W1XX, 3CXXX, and 8S1XX) and First Sergeants (8FOOO). The intent of this program is to build a joint community of professional special operators. The enlisted personnel in this program should be able to understand and communicate joint and Air Force special operations mission requirements, capabilities, and limitations. The results of their efforts should be successful operations and mutual understanding and cooperation amongst Air Force and joint special operations forces. The Commando EDGE program for enlisted personnel consists of required and elective courses enhanced by field experience. The program is designed from Level I entry at a relatively low rank to Level III with senior leadership responsibility at a higher rank. Senior personnel entering AFSOC must satisfy requirements at each level to attain Level III subject to waivers granted in accordance with paragraph 5.3.

**5.2. Certifications.** The training/certification document (AFSOC Form 92) carries a commander's or a director's indorsement that a noncommissioned officer is capable of performing at a specific professional level. Training officers or unit training managers complete the AFSOC form when the individual successfully completes all requirements for certification at Level I, II, or III. The commander or director signs the form and forwards a copy to HQ AFSOC/DPPP for inclusion in the data base. The form is then returned to the training officer/manager to be maintained in the individual's record.

**5.3. Waiver Authority.** Special circumstances may call for a waiver to certification requirements set in this instruction. Waiver authority is the AFSOC Vice Commander. Petitions for waiver should be made in writing to the AFSOC Vice Commander and should cite specific requirements to be waived with justification for the waiver. Maintain the waiver petition and AFSOC Vice Commander response with the individual's Commando EDGE training/certification record (AFSOC Form 92).

TERRY R. SILVESTER, Colonel, USAF  
Commandant

**COMMANDO EDGE FOR OFFICERS****Operations**

(Special Tactics, Foreign Internal Defense, and Aircrew)

**SPECIAL TACTICS OFFICERS****PREREQUISITES**

1. Qualified in mission AFSC
2. PME for grade completed
3. Air Commando Orientation\*
4. Introduction to Special Operations Course

**LEVEL I**

(Lieutenant to Captain/1-12 Years of Service or Personnel without previous Special Operations Experience)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL I**

1. Dynamics of International Terrorism Course
2. Joint field experience with Special Forces, SEALs and/or Rangers
3. Joint SOF exercise participation or Wartime, Conflict, or Joint Peacetime contingency participation

**ELECTIVES, LEVEL I  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attachment 5)
2. Planning conference participation
3. Cross Cultural Communications Course

**LEVEL II**

(Captain to Lieutenant Colonel/5-20 Years of Service)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL II**

1. Revolutionary Warfare Course
2. Joint Special Operations Planning Workshop
3. Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course
4. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I
5. Joint SOF Exercise participation or Wartime, Conflict, or Joint Peacetime Contingency Participation

**ELECTIVES, LEVEL II  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attachment 5)
2. Joint Special Operations Staff Officer Course
3. Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development Course
4. Air Mobility School
5. Blue Flag participation

**LEVEL III**

(Major to Colonel/12-22 Years of Service)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL III**

1. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I and II
2. Crisis Response Management Course
3. Joint Special Operations Staff Officer Course
4. Joint SOF exercise participation in leadership position or Wartime, Conflict, or Joint Peacetime Contingency Participation

**ELECTIVES, LEVEL III  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attachment 5)
2. Air Mobility School Executive Course
3. AGOS Senior Tactical Battle Staff Course

**NOTE:**

\* This is the Command Overview Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/DSR upon assignment to headquarters staff or the Commando Heritage Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/HO and the USAFSOS.

**FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE (FID) OFFICER**

**PREREQUISITES**

1. Qualified in AFSC
2. PME for grade completed
3. Air Commando Orientation<sup>1</sup>
4. Introduction to Special Operations Course
5. Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE)<sup>2</sup>
6. Small Arms Qualification<sup>3</sup>

**LEVEL I**

(Lieutenant to Captain/1-12 Years of Service or Personnel without previous Special Operations Experience)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL I**

1. Language qualification (DLPT goal of 2/2)
2. Revolutionary Warfare Course
3. Cross Cultural Communications Course
4. Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course
5. Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management (DISAM) Security Assistance Management Course<sup>4</sup>
6. Academic Instructor Course<sup>5</sup>
7. Joint field experience with Special Forces, SEALs, and/or Rangers<sup>6</sup>

**LEVEL I ELECTIVES  
(OPTIONAL)**

1. Dynamics of International Terrorism Course
2. Joint Psychological Operations Course

**REQUIRED COURSES  
FOR DEPLOYABLE FID  
PERSONNEL, LEVEL I**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 5)
2. Individual Terrorism Awareness Course<sup>7</sup>

**LEVEL II**

(Captain to Lieutenant Colonel/5-20 Years of Service)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL II**

1. Air Ground Operations School<sup>8</sup>
2. Joint Special Operations Planning Workshop (JSOPW) or Joint Special Operations Staff Officer Course (JSOSOC)<sup>9</sup>
3. Joint Psychological Operations Course
4. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I
5. Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development

**LEVEL III**

(Major to Colonel/12-22 Years of Service)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL III**

Completion of Commando Edge Level I and II

**ELECTIVES, LEVEL III  
(MUST DO ONE)**Specialty professional development courses<sup>10</sup>**NOTES:**

1. This is the Command Overview Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/DSR upon assignment to the headquarters staff or the Commando Heritage Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/HO and USAFSOS.
2. Formal training at the USAF Survival School is required of all FID personnel, to include nonflying specialties. Personnel having graduated from the US Army SERE program or Jungle Survival School are exempt from this requirement.
3. All FID personnel will requalify annually on the M-16 and M-9, 9MM pistol. Other small arms qualification requirements will be driven by mission parameters.
4. FID personnel in Level I will attend either the Overseas Course (SAM-O) or the CONUS Orientation Course (SAM-CO). The course attended depends on the duties of the specific individual and will be determined by the FID organization commander.
5. FID personnel by definition are instructors. Personnel assigned to the FID organization with prior instructional certification (e.g., Academic Instructor School graduates, Air Education and Training Command T-qualified instructors, US Air Force Academy instructors, etc.) will not be required to present credentials. Otherwise, FID personnel will attend an academic instructor program as determined by the FID organization commander.
6. Practical experience includes joint and combined deployments for training with Special Forces, SEALs, Rangers, and AFSOF units, to include direct experience in planning and execution of overseas deployments.
7. Subject course is offered at the US Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School (USAJFKSWCS), Ft Bragg NC (SERE-ATD department).
8. The Joint Combat Airspace Command and Control Course or the Joint Firepower Control Course will be required of tactical pilots and special tactics personnel assigned to the FID organization.
9. Attendance of the JSOPW or JSOSOC will be determined by the duty requirements of FID personnel, e.g., pilots and special tactics personnel will normally attend JSOPW and all others (with exceptions), JSOSOC.
10. Potential courses are those pertinent to the Air Force specialty of FID personnel, e.g., for logistics officers, the Contingency War Planners Course; for intelligence officers, the Counterterrorism Analysis and Intelligence Warnings and Indicators Course; and so forth.

**AIRCREW OFFICER****PREREQUISITES**

1. Qualified mission ready in mission AFSC
2. PME for grade completed

3. Air Commando Orientation<sup>1</sup>
4. Introduction to Special Operations Course

### **LEVEL I**

(Lieutenant to Captain/1-12 Years of Service or Personnel without Previous Special Operations Experience)

#### **REQUIRED COURSES AND EXPERIENCE, LEVEL I**

1. Cross Cultural Communications Course
2. Joint SOF exercise
3. Participation<sup>2</sup> in:  
    BILAT  
    JTX  
    JCS exercise

#### **ELECTIVES, LEVEL I (MUST DO TWO)**

1. Field experience<sup>3</sup>
2. Participation in a "flag" exercise<sup>4</sup>
3. Participation during a contingency mission
4. Mission AFSC specialty schools<sup>5</sup>/Upgrade<sup>7</sup>
5. Combat Aircrew Training School or Advanced Airlift Tactical Training Course<sup>8</sup>
6. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 5)
7. Dynamics of International Terrorism Course
8. Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course

### **LEVEL II**

(Captain to Lieutenant Colonel/5-20 Years of Service)

#### **REQUIRED COURSES AND EXPERIENCE, LEVEL II**

1. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I
2. Participation<sup>6</sup> in:  
    BILATs  
    JTX  
    JCS exercise
3. Field experience<sup>3</sup>
4. Dynamics of International Terrorism Course
5. Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course

#### **ELECTIVES, LEVEL II (MUST DO TWO)**

1. Battle Staff Management Course
2. Participation during contingency mission



3. Advanced AFSC mission specialty school/upgrade<sup>7</sup>
4. Attendance in sister service SOF schools/workshops
5. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attachment 5)
6. Joint Special Operations Planning Workshop
7. Revolutionary Warfare Course
8. Joint Psychological Operations Course
9. Air Ground Operations School
10. Joint Doctrine Air Campaign Course
11. Joint Special Operations Staff Officer Course

### **LEVEL III**

(Major to Colonel/12-22 Years of Service)

#### **REQUIRED COURSES AND EXPERIENCE, LEVEL III**

1. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I and II
2. Crisis Response Management Course
3. Joint Psychological Operations Course
4. Participation in joint exercise as planner/liaison/mission commander

#### **ELECTIVES LEVEL III (MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAJFKSWCS Course
2. NAVSPECWARCEN Course
3. Joint Doctrine Air Campaign Course
4. Revolutionary Warfare Course
5. AGOS Joint Air Operations Course
6. Joint Senior Psychological Operations Course
5. Participation during contingency missions
6. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attachment 5)
7. Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development Course

#### **NOTES:**

1. This is the Command Overview Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/DSR upon assignment to the headquarters staff or the Commando Heritage Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/HO and USAFSOS.
2. Joint interface between user/aircrew on an individual aircrew/team basis. Minimum of one required from each category.

3. Observe one Special Forces, SEAL, and/or Ranger mission from the unit's perspective (HAVE ACE recommended--contact HQ AFSOC/DOT for quota).
4. Participation in one of "Red, Green, Silver, or Blue Flag" exercises acting as an aircrew member or planner.
5. Consists of courses designed to enhance AFSC-based performance (e.g., Joint Electronic Warfare Staff Officer Course; Introduction to Command, Control, Communications and Countermeasures Course; and Joint Command, Control, Communications Warfare Staff Officer Course, etc.).
6. Officer will act in an expanded planning role as mission manager or planner for the weapon system in either a BILAT, JTX, or JCS exercise.
7. Upgrade to evaluator or instructor status.
8. Quotas for these courses are available through HQ AFSOC/DOT.

## **COMMANDO EDGE FOR OFFICERS**

### **Support**

(Officers not covered by Operations)

#### **PREREQUISITES**

1. Qualified in mission AFSC
2. PME completed for current grade
3. Air Commando Orientation completed<sup>1</sup>
4. Introduction to Special Operations Course

### **LEVEL I**

(Lieutenant to Captain/1-10 Years of Service or Personnel without Previous Special Operations Experience)

#### **REQUIRED COURSES AND EXPERIENCE, LEVEL I**

Dynamics of International Terrorism Course

#### **ELECTIVES, LEVEL I (MUST DO TWO)**

1. Cross Cultural Communications Course
2. Contingency/Wartime Planning Course
3. Other interservice schools with the approval of the functional manager<sup>2</sup>
4. Joint or Air Force exercise participation<sup>3</sup>
5. Crisis Action Team or Command Post training/participation<sup>4</sup>
6. Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development Course
7. Joint Special Operations Intelligence Course

### **LEVEL II**

(Captain to Lieutenant Colonel/5-20 Years of Service)

#### **REQUIRED COURSES AND EXPERIENCE LEVEL II**

Joint Special Operations Staff Officer Course

#### **ELECTIVES, LEVEL II (MUST DO TWO)**

1. Revolutionary Warfare Course
2. AFSOC Squadron Commander's Course
3. Specialty professional development course<sup>2</sup>
4. Joint Precommand Course

5. Other Air Force and interservice schools with the approval of the functional manager<sup>2</sup>
6. Joint exercise participation (must be different from event used for Level I certification)<sup>3</sup>
7. Crisis Action Team or Command Post training/participation (must be different from event used for Level I certification)<sup>4</sup>

### **LEVEL III**

(Major to Colonel/12-22 Years of Service)

#### **REQUIRED COURSES AND EXPERIENCE, LEVEL III**

1. Joint Psychological Operations Course
2. Crisis Response Management Course

#### **ELECTIVES, LEVEL III (MUST DO TWO)**

1. USSOCOM Orientation Course
2. AFSOC Squadron Commander's Course
3. Joint Precommand Course
4. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attachment 5)
5. Other Air Force and interservice schools with the approval of the functional manager<sup>2</sup>
6. Joint exercise participation (must be different from event used for Levels I and II certification)<sup>3</sup>
7. Crisis Action Team or Command Post training/participation (must be different from event used for Levels I and II certification)<sup>4</sup>
8. Joint Senior Psychological Operations Course

#### **NOTES:**

1. This is the Command Overview Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/DSR upon assignment to the headquarters staff or the Commando Heritage Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/HO and USAFSOS.
2. Forward requests to HQ AFSOC/DP for review and approval. Include as much information about the school/course as possible so that a thorough evaluation can be accomplished. Approved courses will be added to the instruction when updated.
3. Participation (active player, not observer) in any exercise/deployment will qualify for EDGE credit. Description of exercise and a copy of the travel orders must be submitted for approval to the certifying official.
4. Description of function performed must be submitted to the certifying official for approval.

**COMMANDO EDGE FOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS**

**Operations**

(Special Tactics, Foreign Internal Defense, and Aircrew)

**SPECIAL TACTICS NCO**

**PREREQUISITES**

1. Qualified in mission AFSC<sup>1</sup>
2. PME for grade completed
3. Air Commando Orientation<sup>2</sup>
4. Introduction to Special Operations Course

**LEVEL I**

(A1C through SSgt, 1-12 Years of Service, or Personnel without Previous Special Operations Experience)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL I**

1. Dynamics of International Terrorism Course
2. Joint field experience with Special Forces, SEALs, and/or Rangers
3. Joint SOF exercise participation or Wartime, Conflict, or Joint Peacetime Contingency Participation
4. Special Tactics IFAM (1C2XX/1T2XX)

**ELECTIVES, LEVEL I  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attachment 6)
2. Cross Cultural Communications Course

**LEVEL II**

(TSgt through MSgt, 6-20 Years of Service)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL II**

1. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I
2. Revolutionary Warfare Course
3. AGOS Joint Combat Airspace C<sup>2</sup> Course
4. Wartime, Conflict, or Joint Peacetime Contingency Participation

**ELECTIVES, LEVEL II**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attach 6)
2. AGOS Enlisted Terminal Attack Controller Course

**LEVEL III**

( SMSgt through CMSgt, 12-22 Years of Service)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL III**

1. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I and II
2. JTX exercise planning and participation
3. Perform duties on JSOTF
4. Participate on a planning cell
5. Joint SOF exercise participation in leadership position or Wartime, Conflict, or Joint Peacetime Contingency Participation

**ELECTIVES, LEVEL III  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 6)
2. Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course
3. Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development Course

**NOTES:**

1. Qualified mission ready in AFSC according to respective career field education and training plan.
2. This is the Command Overview Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/DSR upon assignment to the headquarters staff or the Commando Heritage Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/HO and the USAFSOS.

**FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE (FID) NCO****PREREQUISITES**

1. Qualified in mission AFSC<sup>1</sup>
2. PME for grade completed
3. Air Commando Orientation<sup>2</sup>
4. Introduction to Special Operations Course

**LEVEL I**

(A1C through SSgt, 1-12 Years of Service, or Personnel without Previous Special Operations Experience)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL I**

1. Language qualification (DLPT goal 2/2)
2. Revolutionary Warfare Course
3. Cross Cultural Communications Course

4. Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course
5. Academic Instructor Course<sup>3</sup>
6. Joint field experience with Special Forces, SEALs, and/or Rangers<sup>4</sup>

**REQUIRED COURSES  
FOR DEPLOYABLE FID  
PERSONNEL, LEVEL I**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 6)
2. Individual Terrorism Awareness Course<sup>5</sup>
3. Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE)<sup>6</sup>
4. Small arms qualification<sup>7</sup>

**LEVEL II**

(TSgt through MSgt, 6-20 Years of Service)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL II**

1. Air Ground Operations Course<sup>8</sup>
2. Joint Psychological Operations Course
3. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I

**LEVEL II ELECTIVES  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course (See Attachment 6)
2. Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course  
(Noncommissioned FID personnel)
3. Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development Course  
(Noncommissioned FID personnel)
4. Air Mobility School

**LEVEL III**

(SMSgt through CMSgt, 12-22 Years of Service)

**REQUIRED COURSES  
AND EXPERIENCE,  
LEVEL III**

1. USSOCOM Headquarters Orientation Visit
2. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I and II

**ELECTIVES, LEVEL III  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development Course
2. Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management (DISAM) Security Assistance Management Course<sup>9</sup>
3. Specialty technical upgrade courses<sup>10</sup>

**NOTES:**

1. Qualified mission ready in AFSC according to respective career field education and training plan.
2. This is the Command Overview Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/DSR upon assignment to the headquarters staff or the Commando Heritage Briefing provided by the HQ AFSOC/HO and USAFSOS.
3. FID personnel by definition are instructors. Personnel assigned to the FID organization with prior instructional certification (e.g., Academic Instructor School graduates, Air Education and Training Command T-qualified instructors, US Air Force Academy instructors, etc.) will not be required to present credentials. Otherwise, FID personnel will attend an academic instructor program as determined by the organization commander.
4. Practical experience includes joint and combined deployments for training with Special Forces, SEALs, Rangers, and AFSOF units, to include direct experience in planning and execution of overseas deployments.
5. Subject course is offered at USAJFKSWCS, Ft Bragg NC (SERE-ATD department).
6. Formal training at the USAF Survival School is required of all FID personnel, to include nonflying specialties. Personnel having graduated from the US Army SERE program or Jungle Survival School are exempt from this requirement.
7. All FID personnel will requalify annually on the M-16 and M-9, 9MM pistol. Other small arms qualification requirements will be driven by mission parameters.
8. The Joint Combat Airspace Command and Control Course or the Joint Firepower Control Course will be required of special tactics personnel assigned to the FID organization.
9. Potential courses include the CONUS course (SAM-C), Training Officer Course (SAM-TO), and others pertinent to the FID mission.
10. Potential courses are those pertinent to the Air Force specialty of FID personnel.

**AIRCREW NCO****PREREQUISITES**

1. Qualified Mission Ready in AFSC<sup>1</sup>
2. PME for grade completed
3. Air Commando Orientation<sup>2</sup>
4. Introduction to Special Operations Course

**LEVEL I**

(A1C through SSgt, 1-12 Years of Service or Personnel without Previous Special Operations Experience)



**LEVEL I  
REQUIREMENTS**

1. Participation as an aircrew<sup>3</sup> member in:  
BILAT  
JTX  
JCS Exercise
2. Aircrew Planner in a SOPE

**LEVEL I ELECTIVES  
(MUST DO TWO)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 6)
2. Cross Cultural Communications Course
3. Participation during a contingency mission
4. Combat Aircrew Training School or Advanced Airlift  
Tactical Training Courses<sup>6</sup>
5. Participation in "flag" exercises
6. Field experience<sup>4</sup>
7. Dynamics of International Terrorism Course

**LEVEL II**

(TSgt through MSgt, 6-20 Years of Service)

**LEVEL II  
REQUIREMENTS**

1. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I
2. Dynamics of International Terrorism Course
3. Field experience<sup>4</sup>
4. Cross Cultural Communications Course

**LEVEL II ELECTIVES  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 6)
2. Advanced Airlift Tactical Training Course<sup>6</sup>
3. Participation in contingency mission
4. Participation in "flag" exercises
5. Advanced AFSC specialty school/upgrade<sup>5</sup>

**LEVEL III**

(SMSgt through CMSgt, 12-22 Years of Service)

**LEVEL III  
REQUIREMENTS**

1. Completion of Commando EDGE Level I and II requirements
2. "Flag" exercise
3. Advanced Airlift Tactical Training Course<sup>6</sup>

**LEVEL III ELECTIVES  
(MUST DO ONE)**

1. USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 6)
2. Contingency Mission

**NOTES:**

1. Qualified mission ready in AFSC according to respective career field education and training plan.
2. This is the Command Overview Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/DSR upon assignment to the headquarters staff or the Commando Heritage Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/HO and USAFSOS.
3. Joint interface between user/aircrew on an individual aircrew/team basis. Minimum of one required (either BILAT, JTX, OR JCS exercise).
4. Observe one Special Forces, SEAL, or Ranger mission from that unit's perspective (HAVE ACE recommended contact HQ AFSOC/DOT for quota).
5. Upgrade to Instructor/Evaluator.
6. Quotas for these courses are available through HQ AFSOC/DOT.

**COMMANDO EDGE FOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS**

**Support**

(Noncommissioned Officers not covered by Operations)

**PREREQUISITES**

1. Qualified in mission AFSC<sup>1</sup>
2. PME for grade completed
3. Air Commando Orientation<sup>2</sup>
4. Introduction to Special Operations Course

**LEVEL I**

(A1C through SSgt, 1-12 Years of Service or Personnel without Previous Special Operations Experience)

**LEVEL I  
REQUIREMENTS**

1. AFSOC mission brief
2. Dynamics of International Terrorism Course

**LEVEL I ELECTIVES  
(MUST DO ONE)**

USAFSOS Regional Orientation Courses  
(See Attachment 6)

**LEVEL II**

(TSgt through MSgt, 6-20 Years of Service)

**LEVEL II  
REQUIREMENTS**

1. Revolutionary Warfare Course
2. Cross Cultural Communications Course

**LEVEL II ELECTIVES  
(MUST DO ONE)**

USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 6)<sup>3</sup>

**LEVEL III**

(SMSgt through CMSgt, 12-22 Years of Service)

**LEVEL III  
REQUIREMENTS**

USSOCOM headquarters orientation visit

**LEVEL III ELECTIVES**

USAFSOS Regional Orientation Course  
(See Attachment 6)<sup>3</sup>

**NOTES:**

1. Qualified in mission AFSC according to respective career field education and training plan.
2. This is the Command Overview Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/DSR upon assignment to the headquarters staff or the Commando Heritage Briefing provided by HQ AFSOC/HO and USAFSOS.
3. Elective must be in addition to courses taken to satisfy level I or II requirements.

**COMMANDO EDGE FOR OFFICERS****TRAINING/EDUCATION COURSES****USAF SPECIAL OPERATIONS SCHOOL COURSES**

AFSOC 155002	Introduction to Special Operations
AFSOC 146002	Cross Cultural Communications
AFSOC 147002	Dynamics of International Terrorism
AFSOC 142002	Latin America Orientation Course
AFSOC 145002	Middle East Orientation Course
AFSOC 151002	Africa Orientation Course
AFSOC 152002	Asia-Pacific Orientation Course
AFSOC 158002	Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course
AFSOC 157002	Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development
AFSOC 156002	Revolutionary Warfare Course
AFSOC 143502	Joint Psychological Operations Course
AFSOC 149002	Joint Special Operations Planning Workshop
AFSOC 154002	Joint Special Operations Staff Officer Course
AFSOC 148002	Crisis Response Management Course
AFSOC 150002	Joint Senior Psychological Operations Course

**OTHER AIR FORCE AND JOINT SCHOOLS**

ACC 228XXX	Joint Air Operations Staff Course
DIC XXXXXX	Joint Special Operations Intelligence Course
ACC 228550	AGOS Battle Staff Course/SOF Tutorial
MAWC500	Joint Doctrine Air Campaign Course
ACC 228555	AGOS Joint Combat Airspace Command and Control Course
ACC 228560	AGOS Joint Firepower Control Course
AMC XXXXXX	Air Mobility School Senior Officers' Executive Course
ACC 228XXX	AGOS Senior Tactical Battle Commander's Course
MLMDC 800	USAF Commander's Seminar
CATS XXXX	Combat Aircrew Training School (PDS Codes CUC and 42N)

**COMMANDO EDGE FOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS****TRAINING/EDUCATION COURSES****USAF SPECIAL OPERATIONS SCHOOL COURSES**

AFSOC 155002	Introduction to Special Operations
AFSOC 146002	Cross Cultural Communications Course
AFSOC 142002	Latin America Orientation Course
AFSOC 145002	Middle East Orientation Course
AFSOC 151002	Africa Orientation Course
AFSOC 152002	Asia-Pacific Orientation Course
AFSOC 156002	Revolutionary Warfare Course
AFSOC 147002	Dynamics of International Terrorism Course
AFSOC 143002	Joint Psychological Operations Course
AFSOC 158002	Aviation Foreign Internal Defense Course
AFSOC 157002	Civil-Military Strategy for Internal Development

**OTHER AIR FORCE AND JOINT SCHOOLS**

CATS XXXX	Combat Aircrew Training School (PDS Codes CUC and 42N)
	Special Tactics IFAM
AATTC PIC	Practical Intelligence Course
ACC 228550	AGOS Battle Staff Course
ACC ETAC 228561	Enlisted Terminal Attack Controller
ACC 228550	Joint Combat Airspace C <sup>2</sup> Course
DIC XXXXXX	Joint Special Operations Intelligence Course